

Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SAM-01 SCCT-01 /060 W

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O R 220710Z JUL 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3828

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CINCLNT NORFOLK VA

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0948

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI AO

SUBJECT: FNLA REJECTS CEASE FIRE TERMS; NO FNLA COLUMN IN SIGHT

REF: LUANDA 8940

1. A PORTUGUESE MILITARY SOURCE TOLD ME JULY 21 THAT THE FNPU HAS NOT SIGNED THE CEASE FIRE AGREEMENT REPORTED IN REFTEL. WHAT HAPPENED IS THAT ON JULY 18 AT A NATIONAL DEFENSE COMMISSION MEETING A DRAFT PROPOSAL WAS TABLED THAT CONTAINED SPECIFIC DATES FOR CEASE FIRE AND TROOP WITHDRAWAL. EARLY JULY 19 FNLA REJECTED THE IDEA AND THE COMMISSION MET ALL DAY. AT SOME POINT IT WAS THOUGHT THAT AN AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED AND DOCUMENTS WERE DRAWN UP FOR SIGNATURE. FNLA REFUSED TO SIGN BECAUSE, SAID A REPRESENTATIVE, IT DID NOT AGREE WITH THE TERMS.

2. MPLA DECIDED TO SIGN AND ORDERED ITS TROOPS TO STOP FIRING AT 0800 ON JULY 20. WHEN THE INTENSE FIRING BROKE OUT AT THE SAN PEDRO DA BARRA FORT AT 1200 HOURS ON SUNDAY, THE PORTUGUESE MOVED BETWEEN THE COMBATANTS WITH ARMORED CARS, BUT CLAIM NOT TO HAVE
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FIRE A SHOT. A SHELL OIL COMPANY STORAGE NEAR THE FORT SUFFERED

SOME SLIGHT DAMAGE DURING THE SIEGE.

3. THE PORTUGUESE MILITARY ASKED THE MPLA TO HONOR THE CEASEFIRE TERMS IT HAD AGREED TO, EVEN IF THE FNLA HAD NOT. AS OF THIS WRITING, (1800 HOURS LOCAL TIME JULY 21), THE CEASEFIRE IN LUANDA WAS STILL HOLDING.

4. THE SAME SOURCE TOLD ME ON JULY 21 THAT NO FNLA INVASION COLUMN HAS BEEN SPOTTED. THERE ARE SIZEABLE FNLA ELEMENTS NORTH OF CAXITO AND THESE HAVE ENGAGED THE MPLA IN SKIRMISHES DURING THE PAST TWO OR THREE DAYS.

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